



Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

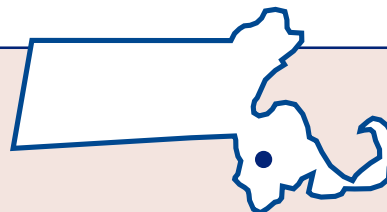
Taunton, MA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Taunton was selected to receive an assessment grant. Located between Boston, Fall River, and New Bedford, Taunton (population 56,000) is a former seaport and industrial community. The metal industries and other commercial and industrial activities along the Taunton River have declined. The presence of brownfields along the river is forcing most development away from the city's downtown. Taunton has been designated by the state as an Economic Target Area and an Economic Distressed Area. Historically, the Weir Village area has been the center of industry in Taunton and contains the largest concentration of the city's brownfields. Weir Village is bordered on two sides by the Taunton River and is home to almost one-third of the city's population. The Weir Village area has



Assessment Grant

New
2003

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Taunton for a brownfields assessment grant. The city will use grant funds to conduct Phase I and Phase II assessments at sites contaminated by hazardous substances throughout the city. Many of the sites to be assessed are expected to be located in the Weir Village industrial center of the city. Grant funds also will be used to conduct community outreach activities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team
617-918-1210
<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: City of Taunton, MA
508-821-1000

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the City of Taunton has received brownfields funding for assessment and revolving loan fund grants.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

the highest concentrations of low-income and minority residents in the city. The city's goals are to rejuvenate neighborhoods, promote economic activity, and create affordable housing.